

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 14919 141654Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 H-01 NSC-05
/029 W

-----089192 150200Z /15

R 141500Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4929
USICA
INFO AMCONSUL NAPLES

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USICA FOR ECA/IVP/V

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: OTRA, IT, PINT
SUBJ: VISIT OF YOUNG DC DEPUTY CLEMENTE MASTELLA - REQUEST FOR
FACILITATIVE ASSITANCE

BEGIN SUMMARY: CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC (DC) DEPUTY CLEMENTE
MASTELLA HAS INFORMED EMBASSY THAT HE WILL VISIT RELATIVES IN
NEW YORK AND BOSTON AREAS AUGUST 19 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 5. HE
WOULD LIKE TO VISIT WASHINGTON FOR TWO WORKING DAYS, AUGUST
24 AND 25, IF USEFUL PROGRAM CAN BE ARRANGED. WE RECOMMEND
THAT EUR/WE ASSISTIN ARRANGING APPROPRIATE APPOINTMENTS FOR
MASTELLA WHO IS ONE OF THE MOST ACTIVE AND INFLUENTIAL YOUNG
DC POLITICIANS ON THE PARTY'S LEFT WING. END SUMMARY

1. BORN NEAR BENEVENTO IN 1947, MASTELLA WAS ONLY 29 WHEN
ELECTED TO THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES IN 1976. A PHILOSOPHY
GRADUATE WHO LATER WORKED AS A RAI JOURNALIST IN NAPLES,
MASTELLA ENTERED POLITICS THROUGH "AZOINE CATTOLICA." HE
IS A POLITICAL ALLY OF DC LEFT-WING FACTIONAL LEADER
DE MITA. HE IS MARRIED AND HAS ONE CHILD. MASTELLA HAS
MADE PREVIOUS TRIPS TO THE US, VISITING AN UNCLE NEAR BOSTON
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AND HIS WIFE'S FAMILY NEAR NEW YORK CITY. HE DOES NOT SPEAK
ENGLIST HIMSELF, HOWEVER.

2. A MEMBER OF THE REBELLIOUS 1968 GENERATION, MASTELLA
REMAINS CONSIDERABLY INFLUENCED BY THE RADICAL-CHIC MARISM
THAT PERMEATED ITALIAN CULTURE AND SOCIETY AT THAT TIME.
HE HAS CONSEQUENTLY FREQUENTLY BEEN CRITICAL OF THE US AND

ADMITS THAT HIS AMERICAN-RAISED WIFE OFTEN EXPRESSES ALARM AT VIEWPOINTS WHICH SHE CONSIDERS LEFT-WING. WITH MFA UNDERSECRETARY SANZA AND CIRINO-POMICINO, MASTELLA IS ACTIVE IN THE SO-CALLED "GROUP OF 30"--YOUNG PARLIAMENTARIANS ON THE DC'S MINORITY LEFT-WING WHO SUPPORT THE ANDREOTTI-ZACCAGNINI POLICY OF CLOSER COOPERATION WITH THE PCI IN CONTRAST TO THEIR PEERS IN THE MODERATE "GROUP OF 100." ON ITALIAN POLITICAL PROSPECTS AND DC PARTY ISSUES, MASTELLA (LIKE DE MITA AND OTHERS ON THE DC'S LEFT-SEE ROME 14185) IS PROFOUNDLY SKEPTICAL OF CRAXI'S AUTONOMOUS POLICIES AND IS "POSSIBILIST" ON THE ISSUE OF THE PCI'S DEMOCRATIC EVOLUTION.

3. PROGRAM SUGGESTION: IN DEPARTMENT, WE RECOMMEND THAT MASTELLA MEET WITH MESSRS. PAGANELLI, WRIGHT AND BROD OF EUR/WE; AT NSC, HUNTER IF AVAILABLE. WHILE CONGRESS WILL BE IN RECESS, CALL ON A CONGRESSIONAL STAFFER AND TOUR OF HILL WOULD BE USEFUL IN INTRODUCING MASTELLA TO US POLITICS. MARTIN WENICK (EUR/SOV) HAS OFFERED SEE MASTELLA FOR LUNCH, POSSIBLY WITH LEDEEN OF SIS OR WASHINGTON POST STAFFER. RE PROGRAM AND TIMING, MASTELLA CAN BE CONTACTED AT 2 MILL RIVER ROAD, OYSTER BAY, NEW YORK; TEL. (TQY) 922-6690.

4. FOR IC/IVP/V: AS MASTELLA WILL NEED INTERPRETER, MISSION RECOMMENDS ASSIGNMENT OF ESCORT-INTERPRETOR FOR APPOINTMENTS DURING TWO-DAY VISIT, AUGUST 24-25. PLEASE ADVISE. HOLMES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISITS, POLITICAL LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978ROME14919
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780332-1075
Format: TEL
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780867/aaaacdzu.tel
Line Count: 86
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 6aec0d64-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1748133
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT OF YOUNG DC DEPUTY CLEMENTE MASTELLA - REQUEST FOR FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE BEGIN SUMMARY: CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC (DC) DEPUTY CL
TAGS: OTRA, PINT, IT, DC, (MASTELLA, CLEMENTE)
To: STATE ICA
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6aec0d64-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014